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Held at the Westin Lima Hotel and Convention Center, Lima, on Tuesday, 3 December 2013, at 10 a.m.

President: Ms. Triveño ..... (Peru)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Organization of work

1. **The President** said that the General Committee, in accordance with rule 42 of the rules of procedure, wished to make a number of proposals to the Conference concerning the organization of its work. In formulating those proposals, it had taken into account the recommendations of the informal consultations convened at the request of the Industrial Development Board for the preparation of the Conference, contained in conference room paper GC.15/CRP.2. It was recommended that the Conference should:

(a) Decide to cover agenda items 7 to 21 in the plenary in the form of a general debate;

(b) Establish one Main Committee, chaired by Mr. Brennan of Ireland, on which each Member participating in the Conference might be represented;

(c) Decide to refer agenda items 7 to 21 to the Main Committee for a more focused debate aimed at the preparation of consensus draft decisions and resolutions for submission to the plenary, and to request the Chair of the Main Committee to submit a written report on its work to the Conference by Friday, 6 December 2013.

2. *The recommendations were adopted.*

3. **The President** said that, in accordance with rule 35 of the rules of procedure, the Chair of the Main Committee would be a member of the General Committee.

4. The General Committee recommended that, as in past years, the Main Committee should elect four Vice-Chairs instead of three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur. It also proposed that the Conference should organize its schedule of work along the lines recommended by the informal consultations of the Board, as reflected in the tentative schedule of meetings that had already been distributed. Statements should be as short as possible, bearing in mind that the maximum time available in the general debate would be five minutes for Member States and 10 minutes for regional groups. She urged delegations to use the Main Committee for constructive discussions aimed at reaching consensus decisions on the items allocated to it and avoid making general statements that should be reserved for the general debate. She drew attention to rule 90 of the rules of procedure, which required the Conference to make every effort to ensure that all its substantive decisions were taken by consensus. With that in mind, she urged that every effort should be made to avoid voting in the plenary. Should any disagreement arise in the Main Committee on any item, the Chair of the Committee, in his report to the plenary, would inform the Conference of the divergent views and a statement explaining the positions of the Member States in that regard would be delivered in the plenary.

Credentials of representatives to the Conference

Appointment of the Credentials Committee

5. **The President** said that the composition of the Credentials Committee was to be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the United Nations General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session, which was as follows: Belgium, China, Colombia, Gabon, Guyana, the Russian Federation, Singapore, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America. Since Singapore and the United States were not Member States of UNIDO, the States in List A in Annex I to the UNIDO Constitution had submitted the candidature of Kazakhstan to replace Singapore and the States in List B had submitted the candidature of France to replace the United States. Since representatives of Belgium and Guyana were not available to attend the meeting of the Credentials Committee held on 4 December 2013, the States in List B had submitted the candidature of Germany to replace Belgium and the States in List C had submitted the candidature of Mexico to replace Guyana.

6. If she heard no objection, she would take it that the Conference agreed to the proposed composition of the Credentials Committee.

7. *It was so decided.*

List of States included in Annex I to the Constitution (GC.15/CRP.2)

8. **The President** said that Turkmenistan was not yet included in any of the Lists of States in Annex I to the Constitution. In a note verbale dated 6 August 2013, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Chair of the Asia and Pacific Group, had informed UNIDO of the decision to include Turkmenistan among the Asia and Pacific States in List A.

9. If she heard no objection, she would take it that the Conference agreed that Turkmenistan should be included in List A in Annex I to the Constitution.

10. *It was so decided.*

Annual reports of the Director General on the activities of the Organization for 2011 and 2012 (*continued*) (IDB.40/2, IDB.41/2)

Reports of the Industrial Development Board on the work of its fortieth and forty-first regular sessions (*continued*) (GC.15/2 and GC.15/3)

Forum on industrial development issues (*continued*) (GC.15/4)

Financial matters (*continued*)

(a) **Scale of assessments of Member States** (*continued*) (IDB.41/6/Rev.1; IDB.41/Dec.9)

(b) **Financial situation of UNIDO** (*continued*) (GC.15/11 and GC.15/14; GC.15/CRP.1)

(c) **Working Capital Fund** (*continued*) (IDB.41/7; IDB.41/Dec.10)

(d) **Financial regulations** (*continued*) (IDB.41/14; IDB.41/Dec.11)

(e) **Appointment of an External Auditor** (*continued*) (GC.15/12; IDB.41/15)

Programme and budgets, 2014-2015 (*continued*) (IDB.41/5 and Add.1; IDB.41/Dec.12)

Medium-term programme framework (*continued*) (IDB.41/8; IDB.41/Dec.13)

Outcome document of the informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO, entitled "Strategic Guidance Document" (*continued*) (IDB.41/24)

Lima Declaration and Plan of Action 2013 (*continued*) (GC.15/13)

UNIDO activities related to energy and the environment (*continued*) (GC.15/5 and GC.15/6)

UNIDO activities related to agribusiness, trade capacity-building and job creation (*continued*) (GC.15/7)

UNIDO activities related to the Vienna Ministerial Declaration and Plan of Action of the Least Developed Countries and to cooperation with middle-income countries (*continued*) (GC.15/8 and GC.15/9)

Report of the work of the Multilateral Diplomatic Committee in UNIDO (*continued*) (GC.15/CRP.4)

Personnel matters, including UNIDO Staff Pension Committee (*continued*) (GC.15/CRP.2; IDB.41/19; IDB.41/Dec.15)

Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental, governmental and other organizations (*continued*) (GC.15/10)

Date and place of the sixteenth session (*continued*)

11. **Mr. Hatzopoulos** (Greece), speaking on behalf of the European Union (EU), Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Norway, Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Armenia, said that the EU and UNIDO cooperated extensively in many fields. Such cooperation had helped more than 70 countries in Africa and the Caribbean, Asia and Eastern Europe develop small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), improve the quality of their products, enhance their food safety standards, participate in international trade and protect their environment through more sustainable industrial activities. Such programmes had been supported with more than 100 million euros from the EU over the past eight years.

12. The EU and UNIDO had identified a number of areas for future cooperation, including the promotion of sustainable patterns of production and consumption, ensuring that they were resource- and energy-efficient, low-carbon and low-waste, non-polluting and safe, resulting in products that were responsibly managed throughout their life cycle. Another area of interest was the greening of existing industries and the creation of green businesses that delivered environmental goods and services, such as waste management and recycling services, renewable energy technologies and environmental advisory services. There was also cooperation on mainstreaming the use of renewable energy in industrial applications, particularly in SMEs, increasing their competitiveness and reducing their dependence on fossil fuels, providing access to energy through mini-grids and facilitating the strengthening of agro-industrial capabilities and linkages that improved

opportunities for added value and served as an effective means of achieving economic transformation and providing sustainable livelihoods.

13. In that context, he recalled the relevance and importance of UNIDO in such fields as trade capacity-building, standards implementation, development of the private sector, including institution-building, the development of national and regional industry strategies and policies and the development of value chains, thereby achieving energy efficiency, promoting renewable energy and fighting poverty.

14. The EU was committed to inclusive and sustainable growth for human development, promoting a social and green economy that generated inclusive growth, created decent jobs and helped reduce poverty by investing in natural capital. That included support for cleaner technologies, energy and resource efficiency, low-carbon development and the encouragement of innovation relating to core labour standards, the use of technology and support for corporate social responsibility. It was also committed to the promotion of sustainable agribusiness, locally developed good practices, with the focus on smallholder agriculture and rural livelihoods. It also sought to facilitate access to low-carbon technologies and affordable and sustainable energy services.

15. Dialogue and cooperation continued in such areas as capacity-building in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to add value to their mining products, strengthening creative industries, supporting cleaner industrial production in southern Mediterranean countries and improving sustainable production and consumption in six countries of Eastern Europe. EU-UNIDO joint advocacy had also helped mobilize international partners for major priorities such as "Sustainable Energy for All", agribusiness in Africa and productive work for youth in the Mediterranean.

16. The relevant services of the EU and UNIDO would continue their dialogue through workshops, conferences and dialogue in the field with developing countries and regional integration organizations, as well as any means that would help the EU and UNIDO to achieve their objectives on the basis of ownership by the partners. The EU was committed to working with UNIDO to increase access to sustainable energy as a key component of poverty eradication. It reiterated its commitment to cooperation and continued dialogue with UNIDO.

17. **Mr. de Alba** (Mexico), speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC), recalled that the Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean Ministers of Industry held the previous day had addressed the importance of industry and trade for inclusive and sustainable economic growth in Latin America and the Caribbean and the contribution of innovation and technology transfer to sustainable industrial development. UNIDO should play an important role in that regard and he therefore appealed to it to strengthen its presence in the region, consolidate programmes and projects with the Governments of the region, promote alliances with other States and organizations and encourage a platform of South-South cooperation on the basis of past experience. Such action would be possible if a greater commitment was made to channel resources and strengthen the Latin America and the Caribbean programme. A large Caribbean contingent was present at the current session and GRULAC was sure that, with renewed political commitment, the region as a whole could continue to receive support for its inclusive and sustainable industrial development. GRULAC welcomed the adoption of the Lima Declaration (GC.15/13, annex). In that connection, it supported the approval of the programme and budgets for the biennium 2014-2015 (see decision IDB.41/Dec.12 in document GC.15/3) and urged the Director General to give due consideration to the recommendations contained in the Strategic Guidance Document prepared by the informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO (IDB.41/24). Commendable as the Organization's work was, there was room for greater efficiency in technical cooperation, action-oriented research and policy advisory services, its work on standards and compliance and its convening and partnerships role.

18. GRULAC attached great importance to strengthening national and regional programmes to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development. In that connection, it recalled the Fourth UNIDO-GRULAC Expert Group Meeting, held in Quito within the framework of Resource Efficiency Week in Ecuador and attended by senior officials and experts from across the region. The outcomes of the Conference of Ministers of Industry and the Expert Group Meeting had been positive and GRULAC trusted that UNIDO would follow them up and support the convening of further meetings of both bodies,

which constituted valuable tools for regional integration and the development of industrial, energy and environmental policies, as well as strengthening regional and international cooperation.

19. GRULAC attached great importance to the Industrial Knowledge Bank as an innovative tool for the exchange of experience and cooperation. Contributions from the countries of the region had had practical and positive results. GRULAC was very grateful to Spain for its financial contributions to the Bank, which had made possible a large number of cooperation projects.

20. Recalling the establishment at the Conference's fourteenth session of the Trust Fund for Latin America and the Caribbean, which aimed to provide support for services of particular interest to Member States in the region, he welcomed the definition of the terms of reference for the use of the Fund, which would facilitate coordination in identifying regional initiatives and channelling financial resources into the region. He requested the Director General and the Secretariat to seek additional resources for the Trust Fund and the Industrial Knowledge Bank, particularly from regional and international financial institutions.

21. GRULAC welcomed the outcome document of the informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO, entitled "Strategic Guidance Document", which would assist with the formulation and implementation of medium-term programme frameworks, programmes, budgets and other operational programmes. It trusted that the document would be approved by the General Conference.

22. It was essential that cooperation with middle-income countries should be increased, without prejudice to the Organization's cooperation with the least developed countries. In that connection, he recalled the San José Declaration adopted at the High-Level Conference of Middle-Income Countries, on the theme "Challenges for sustainable development and international cooperation in middle-income countries: The role of networks for prosperity" (see document GC.15/9). GRULAC urged UNIDO to take the Declaration into account in developing industrial cooperation programmes with middle-income countries.

23. **Mr. Khosraviani** (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking on behalf of the Asia and Pacific Group, said that, as a specialized agency working towards sustainable industrial development, UNIDO should continue its endeavours to create capacities within developing countries to enable them to become effective manufacturing and trading partners in the global market. The Group hoped that the deliberations in the forum on industrial development issues (see document GC.15/4) and the interregional debates would provide the critical catalyst for placing inclusive and sustainable industrial development at the centre of the post-2015 development agenda. The Group trusted that the recommendations of the forum would be reflected in the Organization's regional programmes and projects.

24. The Group appreciated the increase in the rates of collection of assessed contributions for 2012 and 2013, but urged Member States, and former Member States, to fulfil their financial commitment to UNIDO without delay.

25. The Group noted with concern the reported decline in technical cooperation activities in the first three quarters of 2013. The Secretariat should address the matter by further rationalizing expenditure to ensure the effective allocation of the available financial resources. In that connection, the Group thanked the Auditor General of Pakistan for his valuable contribution to improving the efficiency, transparency and overall performance of UNIDO.

26. The Group supported the approval of the proposed programme and budgets for 2014-2015, which would ensure the Organization's capacity to provide tailored services to Member States, particularly in the area of technical cooperation. The Group also appreciated the Secretariat's efforts in promptly preparing a revised proposal as a response to the unforeseen withdrawal of one Member State.

27. UNIDO would play a significant role in the international development agenda over the next decades. It should therefore strengthen and build on its existing partnerships and mobilize more financial resources. The Group welcomed the "Strategic Guidance Document" issued by the informal working group on the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO, which would provide guidance and serve as a significant source of strategic input for the Director General. It should therefore be approved at the current session and form the basis of the

medium-term programme framework and other operational programmes.

28. The Group commended the work of UNIDO in promoting competitiveness through enhanced industrial energy efficiency measures, the increased use of renewable energy for productive purposes and industrial applications and the scaling-up of clean and innovative energy technologies. The achievements of the trust fund on renewable energy (see document GC.15/5, para. 14) were noteworthy in that regard. The Group also commended the Organization's partnerships with the Vienna Energy Forum, the Global Green Growth Forum, the Green Industry Initiative, Sustainable Energy for All and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). UNIDO should build on the work already done and aim for larger environmental and energy projects in time for the GEF project cycle beginning in July 2014.

29. The Group looked forward to the delivery of further projects relating to agribusiness, trade and job creation in the Asian region. It also supported the Organization's industrial development activities targeted at both the least developed countries and middle-income countries. There were 14 countries within the Asian Group designated as least developed countries by the United Nations and the Group trusted that UNIDO would provide them with the same programmes as those enjoyed by other least developed countries. Middle-income countries, although heterogeneous, also faced development challenges. It was therefore appropriate that specialized agencies of the United Nations system, including UNIDO, were considering new strategies and policies in that regard. He commended the Organization's engagement in middle-income countries, with the promotion of: local innovation and technological learning, resource efficiency and competitive green industrial growth; North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation; and capacity-building and value addition for increased competitiveness and market access through compliance with international standards. Any strategy on poverty reduction at the global level must support poverty reduction in middle-income countries as well, since most poor people lived in middle-income countries.

30. The Group welcomed the recent merit promotion exercise. At the same time, the principles of geographical distribution, fair treatment and equal opportunities must be safeguarded. The Human Resource Management Branch should monitor, supervise and follow up the exercise to ensure that all officers benefited from equal assessment opportunities. A fair promotion process contributed positively to the Organization's technical cooperation delivery and its overall performance.

31. **Mr. Elamin** (Sudan), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, after commending the Director General's participation in the United Nations General Assembly, his openness and his interest in engaging new partners, said that, for the second time in 38 years, Lima called upon the international community to reaffirm its conviction that industrial development was crucial to economic growth and poverty eradication. Developing and least developed countries had come to the second General Conference with hope and determination to promote their industrialization and increase their participation in the international economic order. The return of the General Conference to Lima gave significance to a renewed political commitment to inclusive and sustainable industrial development and to the role of UNIDO as the main agency of the United Nations system addressing developing countries' demands for industrial development. The Group of 77 and China fully endorsed the Lima Declaration.

32. Despite the outstanding progress made by many of the economies of members of the Group, high levels of poverty, unequal income distribution and low levels of competitiveness and productivity constrained the possibilities for greater participation in international trade and for sustained and sustainable development. There was thus no doubt about the importance of industrialization as a driver of development, through the creation of decent productive employment, the integration of women and young people in the economic growth process, the development of the public and private sectors, technology transfer, the promotion of technological change and innovation, resource-efficient production and renewable energy access for productive use.

33. UNIDO had adapted to the times and had also contributed to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through its technical cooperation on poverty reduction. Its accumulated experience had made UNIDO a strategic partner in defining and implementing industrial policies and building national capacities in most of the countries of

the Group. The Group encouraged UNIDO to follow up the conclusions and recommendations of the High-Level Conference of Middle-Income Countries, the Twentieth Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the Least Developed Countries' Ministerial Conference.

34. UNIDO had facilitated North-South cooperation and technology transfer and had maximized national experiences through South-South and triangular cooperation, supporting the establishment of knowledge networking. The Group of 77 and China was confident that UNIDO could continue to help developing countries achieve sustainable development, bearing in mind the policy framework of each country and its right to define its own path towards sustainable development in accordance with its specific national needs, priorities and levels of economic, social and environmental development, and also its sovereign right over its natural resources. Inspired by a spirit of solidarity and cooperation, the Group invited all States and development organizations of the United Nations system, the public and private sectors, financial institutions and others to join an alliance to assure UNIDO its leading role in promoting industrial development.

35. The Group welcomed the "Strategic Guidance Document", which contained clear, balanced and pragmatic guidelines and recommendations. The General Conference should approve the Document as the basis for the formulation and implementation of medium-term programme frameworks and other operational programmes of UNIDO.

36. The current session afforded an opportunity for constructive discussions that addressed the main challenges of industrialization, the need for financial support for higher levels of technical cooperation delivery and the development of innovative means to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

37. **Mr. Oyugi** (Kenya), speaking on behalf of the African Group, commended the priority given by both Mr. LI Yong and his predecessor as Director General to promoting industrial development in developing countries, particularly in Africa.

38. The African Group welcomed the efforts of Member States to integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, which should contribute to job creation, equitable social conditions and poverty eradication. In view of its vast wealth in natural and human resources, it was of great concern that most of the poorest nations were found in Africa.

39. As the central coordinator of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, UNIDO could assist Africa in designing suitable development policies and strategies, including the harnessing and utilization of its resources for much needed economic growth. The significance of UNIDO to African Member States had increased considerably over the years. The Group wished to reiterate its confidence in the Organization's ability to assist Member States by strengthening its activities such as technical cooperation, research and policy advisory services and action on standards and compliance and by fulfilling its convening role. UNIDO could help build Africa's economies by promoting SMEs, which were a significant factor in job creation. It could also assist with capacity-building, fostering South-South and triangular cooperation, technology transfer and private sector development, with a special focus on SMEs. Industrialization was a driver of development and social inclusion, empowering women and creating decent employment for young people.

40. The Director General had visited Africa in October 2013 and witnessed the continent's commitment to industrial development. In that connection, the African Group recalled the outcome of the Twentieth African Union Conference of African Ministers of Industry, which called for the elaboration of development goals on structural transformation within the context of the post-2015 development agenda. It also recalled the launch of the African Union's Agenda 2063, which constituted an economic development framework for Africa.

41. The Organization's initiatives in agribusiness, trade and job creation contributed significantly to poverty reduction in Africa. Although a number of duty- and quota-free initiatives had been launched to allow developing countries better access to markets, Africa's share of global trade remained at 1 per cent. Many African countries struggled to penetrate global trade, owing not only to their lack of supply capacity or adequate infrastructure for complying with market requirements with regard to standards and technical

regulations but also to the adoption of arbitrary standards that were used as technical barriers to trade.

42. Despite the financial crisis that had ravaged economies across the world, Africa continued to register high rates of growth, at an average of more than 5 per cent. It had therefore become more desirable in terms of investment. Many challenges remained, however, and the Group called for the facilitation of technology and skills transfer through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation. Inclusive and sustainable industrial development was of intrinsic value in the social, economic and environmental spheres and should therefore be incorporated into the post-2015 development agenda. The Group urged all Member States to carry that understanding into the intergovernmental negotiations that would be launched at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

43. Energy access was fundamental to industrial development and economic growth. The African Group therefore commended the Organization's programmes that sought to reduce energy poverty in developing countries through technical cooperation and to promote industrial development underpinned with the creation of green industries. The Group welcomed the Organization's partnerships with relevant institutions that focused on utilizing locally available resources to harness sustainable energy.

44. The "Strategic Guidance Document" produced by the informal working group of the future, including programmes and resources, of UNIDO was clear and balanced, providing pragmatic guidelines and recommendations for UNIDO programmes and budgets and more effective programmes and activities in Member States. The Group looked forward to the adoption of the "Strategic Guidance Document" by consensus. It also welcomed the adoption of the Lima Declaration and hoped that its implementation would go a long way towards strengthening the industrial base in Member States, thus ensuring their genuine transition to inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

45. **Mr. González Jaramillo** (Ecuador) said that he wished to share his country's vision of the importance of industrial development and the role of UNIDO. The country's Plan de Desarrollo para el Buen Vivir (Development Plan for Collective Well-being) 2013-2017 was based on two major principles: poverty eradication and a change in patterns of production. The crucial element connecting the two principles was industrial development, which in Ecuador required the involvement of the private sector, but with the focus always on the well-being of the population and an understanding that the most cohesive societies had the human capital required to drive any development strategy. As the Lima Declaration stated, industry increased productivity and created decent employment, which, in the view of Ecuador, was the best way of combating poverty in a structural manner. UNIDO must make itself the strongest proponent of more inclusive, equitable and dynamic industrial development. It should be the guardian of a new world industrial order, where countries could compete with quality and efficiency, with full regard for the need for adequate wages and a commitment to social security; where good manufacturing practices did not endanger the environment; where world institutions were stronger, so that it was they, not private investment funds, which decided that a given country or business was viable; and where foreign investment went not only to the raw materials sector but also to high technology and manufacturing. Only by increased research and technology in industry could developing countries achieve the aim of diversified production with greater added value, with an improved domestic value chain, and stop being simply exporters of raw materials. It was therefore essential to improve international cooperation in order to enhance timely technology transfer, on favourable terms for developing countries, through North-South and South-South cooperation in the interests of more efficient industry and cleaner production.

46. It was a matter of concern, particularly for countries like Ecuador with limited domestic markets, that protectionist practices were on the rise, usually in the form of para-tariff measures, which affected the exports of developing countries, including manufactured goods, and restricted the possibility of changing patterns of production. The best support that the more developed countries could provide was a real opening up of their markets; that would be the most effective form of cooperation to promote developing countries' industrial development.

47. **Mr. Bensabri** (Algeria) said that, in view of the negative impact of the current economic situation and the regrettable decision by some Member States to leave UNIDO, it was the duty of the international community to help the Organization overcome its

difficulties. That meant greater solidarity and collective efforts to meet common challenges. Algeria had always believed in the relevance of UNIDO and would continue to do so. It fully supported the Director General's efforts to revitalize the Organization in order to make it a global forum to coordinate industrial policies and discussions on economic development.

48. The theme of the current session — "UNIDO: Towards partnerships for a new industrial revolution for inclusive and sustainable growth" — was highly opportune, pointing up the close relationship between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development. Inclusive and sustainable industrial development would contribute to poverty eradication, the creation of decent jobs, especially for young people, access to trade, competitiveness, economic diversification and the rational use of energy sources. It was essential that inclusive and sustainable industrial development should be incorporated in the aims of the post-2015 development agenda. UNIDO should be a leading participant in such action. In that connection, it should support efforts by Member States to improve living standards, diversify their economies and promote productive foreign investment. It should also promote mutually beneficial partnerships through North-South, South-South or triangular cooperation.

49. The industrial sector in Algeria was being revitalized, so that it could play an essential role in the process of growth and action against unemployment, the unemployment rate being currently 10 per cent. The aim was that the industrial sector should double in four years. The Plan of Action had the following priorities: improved industrial environment and development of productive capacities; growth, achieved by developing productive sectors with added value; productive investment for technological development and technical progress; and the development of industrial capacities in all areas. The Government aimed to decrease reliance on hydrocarbons, which, together with sustainable development, should ensure a stable macroeconomic environment. Studies would be carried out in 12 industrial sectors in order to enable industry to be a driving force in the country's development. Retraining would be offered over a three-year period for 18,000 people, totally financed by businesses that saw the need to increase competitiveness in an era of globalization. The Government was also seeking to promote entrepreneurship by setting up facilitation centres to assist young graduates wishing to set up their own enterprises.

50. The industrial development and investment promotion sector worked with State bodies and public and private economic partners with a view to implementing the Plan of Action, under which all would be able to take part in renewing the country's industry. An extensive programme had also been set up to attract foreign direct investment, particularly with regard to technology transfer, the mining of natural resources and job creation.

51. **Mr. Karaca** (Turkey) said that, in recent years, global economic and financial conditions had adversely affected almost every country in the world. They had contributed to volatile energy and food prices, which in turn had led to a reversal of some development gains and exacerbated poverty and hunger. That situation, coupled with the main environmental challenges facing the world — depletion of natural resources, loss of biodiversity, scarcity of water resources and the impact of climate change — had made it all the more urgent to take the necessary steps to achieve sustainable development. If the international community could look beyond short-term considerations and demonstrate political will, success could be within its reach.

52. In such adverse global conditions, it was imperative to determine the true cost of development. While industrial development was crucial to lifting millions out of poverty, the economic aspect of development risked negating the environmental and social aspects of industrial development. Development must therefore be approached in an integrated manner. An essential component of sustainable development through sustainable industrialization was security of energy supply at reasonable prices. There could be no industrial development without energy resources. Lack of access to modern energy services was not only a major obstacle to sustainable industrial development, but also led to lack of access to clean water, sanitation and health care and to reliable and efficient lighting, heating, cooking, mechanical power, transport and telecommunications services. Achieving sustainable development in an equitable manner necessitated an inclusive approach, whereby all stakeholders, including the Government, civil society and the private sector, contributed to taking the necessary measures.

53. International cooperation in economic policymaking and partnerships in the field of

development were more crucial than ever. It was the collective responsibility of the international community to work on renewed commitments with focused, clear policies to address the current development challenges, especially with a view to attaining the Millennium Development Goals. The target date for the achievement of the Goals was less than two years away and achievements had been uneven. Although considerable progress had been made, much remained to be done. Developing countries — particularly the least developed countries — and countries suffering from conflict faced an even more daunting challenge as hard-won progress was under threat. A multifaceted and comprehensive approach was required.

54. Many technical and some vocational projects and seminars had been implemented through the UNIDO Centre for Regional Cooperation based in Turkey, aimed at the countries of Central Asia, Eastern Europe and Africa. Turkey was pleased to assist the Organization in extending training programmes in those regions and would like to expand such activities still further. UNIDO was also carrying out extensive projects in the field of private sector development, with a view to improving energy efficiency in industrial activity, phasing out ozone-depleting substances in production, identifying and removing persistent organic pollutants, promoting clean energy technologies and improving competitiveness and market access for SMEs, among many other things.

55. **Ms. Mabuwa** (Zimbabwe) said that current global economic and social challenges, such as rising youth unemployment, the financial crisis, increased levels of poverty and climate change, coupled with the inability to fully realize the MDGs, made it increasingly necessary for Member States to collectively address how they could collaborate and give greater impetus to a new industrial revolution for inclusive and sustainable industrial development. The necessary socioeconomic transformation could only be achieved by making industrial development policies a priority.

56. The theme for the Conference, "UNIDO: Towards partnerships for a new industrial revolution for inclusive and sustainable growth", underscored the importance of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, as well as of social inclusion. It also embodied the necessary prerequisites, such as private-public partnerships, employment creation, economic diversification, equitable social conditions, the empowerment of women and young people, entrepreneurship development and poverty alleviation.

57. Since their adoption in 2000, the MDGs had formed the global benchmark for the development process. Further action was needed to scale up the successes and to identify further opportunities to realize goals. The post-2015 development agenda should embrace inclusive and sustainable industrial development as a primary goal in the fight against poverty and in advancing socioeconomic transformation. The focus of cooperation among regions should be reinforced by the promotion of technology transfer, investment in agro-industry, energy access and capacity-building, which were critical for the attainment of sustainable industrial development.

58. The Government of Zimbabwe had recently adopted the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation (Zim Asset), which underpinned the country's national development from 2013 to 2018. As her Government sought to rebuild the economy, it was focusing on harnessing the country's abundant human and natural resources, as well as adding value to and beneficiating its primary products. The purpose of Zim Asset was to establish an environment that facilitated sustainable economic empowerment and social transformation for the people of Zimbabwe.

59. UNIDO should further promote sustained South-South cooperation, particularly through building business links for SMEs, as well as promoting public-private partnerships. The development and growth of SMEs was a critical component for economic empowerment for Zimbabweans. Strengthened South-South cooperation would assist in building industrial hubs and capacitate technologically qualified entrepreneurs in developing economies. Her Government had adopted the general principles of public-private partnerships, and was currently engaged in the process of finalizing the legal framework. The promotion of industrial development underpinned by the creation of green industries, which utilized both efficient and sustainable clean energy through the application of appropriate technologies, should be given priority.

60. Zimbabwe had benefited from the expertise of UNIDO in formulating the draft concept of the Green Industry Initiative, and hoped for further collaboration in the greening of the industry of Zimbabwe.

61. **Ms. Al-Ojeil** (Lebanon) said that, at the beginning of 2013, Lebanon had signed a framework programme, which included many different projects that were of great benefit to SMEs. Those were accompanied by technical partnerships and pragmatic practical partnerships between companies in Lebanon and overseas. There were also projects for energy efficiency and the reduction of the industrial impact on the environment in the South and Mediterranean, as well as for increasing the competitiveness of the food industry. The Government of Lebanon was sparing no effort to provide the necessary support and financing for those projects and was backing the work of the UNIDO Regional Office in Beirut.

62. A number of years ago, UNIDO had established in Beirut a centre for local industry, which was now considered to be one of the most important centres of its type in the region and across the world. UNIDO had also helped to establish factories and training centres.

63. The Government of Lebanon attached great importance to the role of UNIDO in meeting the needs of developing countries in the area of industrial development. The promotion of industrial development must be based on a flexible approach, taking account of differing levels of social, economic and environmental development as well as the specificities of each country.

64. The Conference had already highlighted the role of UNIDO as a key platform within the United Nations system for meeting the needs of developing countries in the area of industrial development. Lebanon also supported the "Strategic Guidance Document", which the Conference should adopt as a basis for the implementation of the programme budget.

65. UNIDO and its Member States were operating in a global climate that was characterized by acute crisis and major transformations. That was being seen in North Africa and the Middle East. The world was continuing to feel the effects of the 2008 financial and economic crisis, in the form of reduced growth rates, increased unemployment and increased inflation, jeopardizing living standards. The economy of Lebanon had succeeded in overcoming those obstacles thanks to its inherent flexibility, as well as the country's laws on public debt, its robust private sector and banking sector, and solid monetary and banking policies. That had provided a shield against the fallout from the financial crisis. Rules on liquidity in the banking sector enabled banks to meet the investment needs of the country. Thanks to all of that, Lebanon had been able to build donor trust and encourage donors to invest in the country. The result of the difficult situation in the Syrian Arab Republic was that Lebanon was bearing a burden well beyond its financial, human and logistical capacities in efforts to relieve the plight of Syrian refugees.

66. It was crucial to build on the role of industry in securing the economic recovery of Lebanon. Industry must be in keeping with the environment, jobs must be created for young people, the economy must be modernized and Lebanon must become once again a crossroads for free trade in the Middle East region.

67. **Mr. Sánchez** (Spain) said that Spain was committed to multilateralism and was the sixth largest financial contributor to the United Nations system. It had cooperated with the United Nations Development Programme in the establishment of the Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund, which had had a real impact on the lives of more than 20 million people in more than 50 countries, strengthening human rights and broadening opportunities.

68. The idea of development based on a partnership in which countries shared the costs and benefits of a more prosperous, stable, sustainable and inclusive world inspired the work of Spain on the definition of the new post-2015 development agenda. Spain supported the role assigned to inclusive and sustainable industrial development in that process by the Lima Declaration.

69. UNIDO had been a strategic partner of Spain in the field of industrial cooperation since they had signed a framework agreement for cooperation in 2004. That agreement had strengthened mutual cooperation to promote industrial and technological development. Projects implemented jointly under the agreement had benefited many countries on several continents.

70. Spain attached great importance to the Regional Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean, which was crucial to ensuring that UNIDO technical assistance matched the industrial development

priorities of the region. Work must be continued on projects initiated in the region with the support of Spain, such as the Renewable Energy Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean, which helped the public and private sectors to mobilize the financial and technical resources necessary for the development and use of renewable energy, and the Industrial Knowledge Bank, which served 12 countries.

71. Spain was pleased to have contributed directly to projects for the development of women entrepreneurship in northern Morocco and the marketing of local textile projects in the Andean region. It had also funded various projects implemented by UNIDO under the Montreal Protocol, including a contribution of US$ 1.4 million to ongoing projects in Libya and Mexico.

72. The availability of energy for productive activities remained a key objective for sustainable economic growth and, from 2010 to 2014, Spain had contributed US$ 9 million to the Regional Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in Cabo Verde.

73. International cooperation for inclusive and sustainable development in middle-income countries required specific treatment, and, from a financial point of view, would involve funds of a magnitude that could not be mobilized by traditional means.

74. The Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund had been designed with the objective of strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to act in an integrated and coherent way. In line with that, Spain was supporting and contributing to the Delivering as One initiative. Spain would also support UNIDO unconditionally as it sought to promote the overall coherence of the United Nations system.

75. **Mr. Vanderpuye** (Ghana), welcoming the theme of the Conference, said that UNIDO had once again demonstrated its wish to encourage countries to pursue their national industrial interests with a focus on the global economic environment. Its intervention was not only appropriate but timely as stakeholders in Member States continued to struggle to define the most appropriate strategies and frameworks for optimizing industrial gains in their national development endeavours.

76. The idea of embracing new paradigms that would tend to promote sustainable and inclusive growth among Members should be fully supported by all stakeholders. In the wider African context, actions that were required to accelerate industrialization included the urgent diversification of economies beyond natural resource extraction and agriculture. The case for diversification was more crucial today than ever before in view of the volatility of prices of commodities and other primary products on which most African countries relied. Diversification not only broadened the scope for employment creation, which led to poverty reduction, but also served as a buffer to a country's vulnerability against external shocks and promoted technological transfer and upgrading through foreign direct investment, thus ensuring stable and growth-prone economies.

77. Ghana appreciated the support of UNIDO and attested to the critical role that it had played in its economic development agenda. Ghana had struck oil in commercial quantities in 2007 and, at the request of the Government, UNIDO had organized a conference on competitiveness and diversification for petroleum-rich economies as a means of helping Ghana to adopt best practices in the oil and gas sector and to diversify its economy in order to avoid what had become known as the "resource curse". Ghana appreciated the support provided by UNIDO in the implementation of the Business Plan for the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and the continued support to Ghana's Cleaner Production Centre. UNIDO should continue to provide Member States with innovative and revolutionary industrial ideas and policy frameworks to enhance their effective integration into the global economy.

78. The appointment of an External Auditor for UNIDO for the period 2014-2016 was an important task facing the Conference. A number of countries, including Ghana, had proposed candidates for consideration as the next External Auditor of UNIDO. Ghana's candidate, Mr. Richard Quartey, the Auditor-General of the Audit Service of Ghana, was a chartered accountant and had been a member of Ghana's United Nations audit team. He therefore had hands-on experience in auditing the United Nations and could bring professionalism and dynamism to UNIDO if given a mandate as External Auditor.

79. **Mr. de Alba** (Mexico) said that Mexico welcomed the recent working visit of Mr. LI Yong to Mexico, which had made it possible for the country to obtain a greater awareness of his ideas and projects, and to identify how cooperation between UNIDO and Mexico could take place. The holding of the present General Conference session in the Latin America and Caribbean region highlighted the region's commitment to UNIDO and to international cooperation, including South-South cooperation, with the aim of promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

80. The current session of the General Conference would be a watershed, and would strengthen the role of UNIDO in international development efforts. The Lima Declaration would give the mandate of UNIDO new vitality and enable the Organization actively to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development and international industrial cooperation. He congratulated the Permanent Representative of Peru to the International Organizations in Vienna, Mr. García Revilla, on his leadership which had led to the successful conclusion of the negotiations leading up to the Lima Declaration.

81. Mexico recognized the importance of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as a key factor for achieving the MDGs and drawing up a post-2015 development agenda, which must include the eradication of poverty. There remained two years to achieve the goals that had been established in the year 2000. A binding agreement in the field of climate change was also needed, and Peru had an important role to play as host for the coming negotiations. It was essential that the way in which Member States were pursuing development should be changed fundamentally.

82. Mexico was committed to a model of sustainable production and consumption, with an approach involving the participation of both public and private actors in the establishment of an ambitious agenda.

83. Mexico reaffirmed its commitment to international cooperation, especially South-South and triangular cooperation. It had much to learn, but also a lot to offer in terms of industrial capacity. In that context, Mexico reaffirmed its support for the regional initiatives promoted by UNIDO and its commitment to the implementation of the Lima Declaration.

84. **Mr. Melan** (Austria) said that UNIDO was an important member of the United Nations Development Group and of particular importance to Austria as its host country. Through its mandate and work the Organization was making a major contribution to the attainment of the MDGs and to the eradication of poverty worldwide.

85. Nevertheless, UNIDO was facing some challenges that needed to be addressed. He therefore welcomed the outcome document of the informal working group on the future of UNIDO, entitled "Strategic Guidance Document", which contained a number of important measures both for the medium and the long term. The joint effort of the Member States to elaborate that reform proposal under the able guidance of Costa Rica and Switzerland was a clear sign of the relevance Member States attached to the Organization and the trust they placed in it. Austria therefore called on the Director General of UNIDO to build upon the proposals of Member States for the future of UNIDO.

86. Austria attached particular importance to the smooth and efficient functioning of the Organization. One precondition for that was a realistic budget that allowed UNIDO to fulfil the tasks mandated. He therefore welcomed the Industrial Development Board's adoption of the provisional budget for 2014 and 2015. The budget proposal represented a compromise to which UNIDO contributed through efficiency gains and cost-saving measures in its administration. Austria was pleased to have helped to reach that result through its chairmanship of the Programme and Budget Committee.

87. Regarding the future activities of UNIDO, Austria wished to underline the relevance of the concept of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and welcomed the Organization's active involvement in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and its efforts to ensure that the concept was properly reflected in the future development framework. The Lima Declaration sent an important and strong political signal in that direction.

88. In line with the Declaration and the support shown for the concept of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, Austria had decided to co-chair the Group of Friends for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in New York together with Ethiopia. That group of like-minded countries would

undertake a joint effort to ensure that the concept featured prominently in the post-2015 development agenda.

89. Austria and UNIDO had cooperated very successfully, particularly in the areas of cleaner production and renewable energy. In a globalized world with significant population growth, the sustainability of resources was becoming increasingly important. Access to reliable energy was one of the main prerequisites for sustainable development and allowed for the provision of health services, education, clean water and food security to billions of people. Without addressing sustainable energy, Member States would not be able to cope with the pressing needs of today. In that context, the partnership of UNIDO and Austria was of particular importance.

90. In May 2013, Austria, together with UNIDO and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, had hosted the Vienna Energy Forum, the conclusions of which would serve as an essential input for the post-2015 development agenda. The Austrian Government had been the first bilateral donor to partner with ECOWAS on the establishment of an ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency by signing a memorandum of understanding in 2009, which provided for both substantial start-up financing and technical expertise.

91. Austria had also signed a memorandum of understanding with the East African Community on the establishment of the East African Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, pledging 1 million euros, and had established and launched the first operational phase of the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency. It would also support the preparatory work for the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency under the ongoing UNIDO project for scaling up renewable energy markets in the Pacific Islands region.

92. Austria welcomed the decision of the United Nations Secretary-General to establish the Office for Sustainable Energy in Vienna; the Centre would be able to profit from the presence of a number of energy-related organizations in the city, making Vienna a leading sustainable energy hub in the world.

93. **Mr. Cisse** (Mali) said that his country was emerging from a security and institutional crisis thanks to the assistance and solidarity of the international community, including many of the least developed countries (LDCs). One of the reasons for that crisis had been the absence of development, and Mali supported the new concept of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, which would constitute a response to the many challenges faced by the country. Those challenges included the employment crisis, particularly affecting young people and women, the crisis in education and vocational training and the lack of basic infrastructure. To meet those challenges, the Government of Mali had begun defining a new vision for change, particularly in the industrial and mining sector, built around the recognition of the role of the State in fostering development in partnership with private initiatives. The goal was the integration of the industrial and mining sector with the rest of the country's economy through the development of skills, technical and technological innovation, the creation of new industrial enterprises, an increase in the competitiveness of existing enterprises and the development of subcontracting for the benefit of all communities across the country.

94. Mali sought the support of UNIDO and of the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and the establishment of a partnership between the LDCs and the industrialized countries. UNIDO should continue its activities aimed at developing and fostering SMEs, including through the creation of quality control mechanisms and the establishment of clusters.

95. **Mr. Varga** (Hungary) said that, over the last year, it had often been recalled that UNIDO was at a crossroads, which offered opportunities as well as challenges. With the smooth election of Mr. LI Yong as Director General and the finalization of the "Strategic Guidance Document" in June 2013, UNIDO was now on the right track. With the current adoption of the Lima Declaration, Member States had seized a crucial opportunity, and it was now up to Member States and the Secretariat to realize the goals specified in the Declaration.

96. Defining the strategy of development after 2015 was among the most important long-term multilateral agendas of today. The task was complex, but the mission was clear: to make the common development of Member States sustainable — which did not mean just protecting the environment. The mission was to ensure that countries' economies and societies would

serve their current populations and generations to come.

97. Hungary attached great importance to the issue of water and sanitation and, in October 2013, had organized the Budapest Water Summit in order to take stock of the various international developments in the field of water. That issue needed to be addressed in an integrated way to achieve human rights based social development, prosperity and ecological balance.

98. One of the outcomes of the Vienna Energy Forum had been the establishment of parallel targets for water and energy, and Hungary had organized a panel discussion about the nexus between water and energy in Vienna. UNIDO had a mandate in that field and should explore the possibility of cooperating with the EU and other organizations on that subject.

99. Hungary was actively working together with UNIDO in framing technical cooperation projects in line with the notion of inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Among the priorities were social inclusion and ensuring better living conditions for marginalized groups. Projects in the field of energy and the environment also had the potential to cut the employment gap and improve social and economic inclusion.

100. The post-2015 development agenda should reinforce the international community's commitment to poverty eradication and sustainable development, with inclusive and sustainable industrial development as a basic component. It should also prioritize a comprehensive economic transformation to eradicate extreme poverty and improve livelihoods.

101. As a co-chair of the open working group on sustainable development goals in Europe, Hungary would do its best to achieve a consensual and forward-looking formula as the outcome of the negotiation process.

102. The country's strong commitment to and confidence in UNIDO was demonstrated by the fact that it regularly voluntarily renounced its shares of unutilized balances in favour of UNIDO. The continued interest of Hungary in the Organization's affairs was also shown by its nomination of Mr. László Domokos, President of the State Audit Office of Hungary, for the post of External Auditor. Besides performing the standard task of auditing, Mr. Domokos and his team would contribute to the strategic goals of UNIDO and foster accountability and transparency in its finances.

103. **Mr. Bortis** (Switzerland) said that the fifteenth session of the General Conference should take a close look at how UNIDO could successfully fulfil its mandate. The pressing challenges of reducing poverty and unemployment were still faced but there was also reason to put hope in the green economy and green industry. Strengthening industry and the private sector in developing countries and providing better integration into global markets remained of crucial importance to lifting the masses out of poverty. Switzerland had overcome poverty thanks to industrialization and trade and knew that development created jobs, generated income, made basic goods and services more accessible to consumers and thus improved living standards. It had also seen how industrial growth could be accompanied by environmental degradation, such as air and water pollution, and resource depletion, which put at risk the well-being of future generations.

104. Switzerland welcomed the recognition that future industrial development needed to be both inclusive and sustainable. Social inclusion and respect for planetary boundaries were key principles that would have to be reflected in the post-2015 development agenda. His country fully supported the participation of UNIDO in the agenda-setting process, and expected the Organization to align its activities with the outcome of that process.

105. UNIDO must take advantage of the opportunities presented by inclusive and sustainable development. New partnerships would be needed to make the vision of a green economy a reality. UNIDO had the necessary competence, structure and networks to be a valuable partner for institutions such as GEF, multilateral development banks and bilateral cooperation and development agencies.

106. Swiss development cooperation had long recognized the strengths of UNIDO, and Switzerland had cooperated with the Organization on a range of projects and programmes covering the three thematic priorities. One of the great successes of UNIDO was the cleaner production programme, which Switzerland was supporting. More than 50 national cleaner production centres had been created as part of the programme, which promoted innovation and technology transfer. The programme actively supported

businesses in their efforts to use resources more efficiently and be more competitive.

107. Another UNIDO success was its programme on trade capacity-building. Over recent decades, global trade had become a key element of economic prosperity for countries and sectors that had managed to integrate into global value chains. UNIDO, through its programme on capacity-building in development and application of standards and its programme to strengthen agricultural and industrial value chains, should continue to play a key role in the programme of aid for trade. UNIDO could help developing countries to benefit from global markets and international trade.

108. Switzerland intended to continue cooperation with UNIDO. The new UNIDO management deserved the trust of the Member States, and they must shoulder their responsibilities by providing the management with clear strategic guidance, without interfering in day-to-day business. The informal working group on the future of UNIDO had identified the strengths and weaknesses of UNIDO, and opportunities and threats, and had drawn up several recommendations, which appeared in the "Strategic Guidance Document" (IDB.41/24). While the Lima Declaration reflected Member States' political commitment and their vision for UNIDO, the "Strategic Guidance Document" would provide a more practical tool for the elaboration of a programming and budget framework. The two documents complemented on another perfectly.

109. In theory, UNIDO was ready to tackle future challenges, but in practice it depended on the commitment of Member States and on efficient cooperation between Member States, management and staff. It was time to give reality to the vision that had been agreed on and to work for inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

110. **Mr. Kafando** (Burkina Faso) said that the current session of the General Conference was being held in a difficult context. The economic, financial, environmental and energy crisis had shaken the foundations of Member States' economies and sometimes of Member States themselves. Progress that had been made in development was jeopardized and development goals such as the MDGs would doubtless take longer to achieve. Overcoming the crisis would require of leaders a clear political vision and a firm determination to realize it. Vigorous national industrial policies and sustained international cooperation would be essential components. The relevance of such an approach was evinced by the growth in UNIDO cooperation and the steadily growing demand from States for such cooperation during 2011 and 2012. UNIDO was to be commended for maintaining its leading role in that area and encouraged to continue to provide its unique expertise. The Lima Declaration would be the ideal route map for the task and for developing the post-2015 development agenda.

111. UNIDO was particularly relevant to Africa because it was in that continent that progress towards achieving the MDGs was weakest. Africa would closely follow the implementation of the innovative approach proposed by UNIDO in its new operational strategy for Africa. Africa's needs were real and its expectations were high, particularly as it included the largest number of LDCs. For that reason, his country called for the diligent and efficient implementation of the main provisions of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020.

112. Burkina Faso was in the process of implementing a new country programme, which was based on the principles of ownership and dialogue and which would be a fundamental component of the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development, the Burkina Faso development framework. As an agricultural country, Burkina Faso had high hopes for the country programme, particularly in the areas of agribusiness and agro-industry. Jobs, capacity-building, investment promotion, growth and the fight against poverty were the main themes of the programme. He appealed to all his country's development partners to support the programme, just as they had done previously, for which his country was most grateful.

113. Burkina Faso had adopted new policies and introduced the necessary reforms to create the conditions for sustainable and balanced development. They included the establishment of a permanent and inclusive dialogue between the Government and the private sector, the improvement of the business environment, including the legal framework for business and wealth creation, support for SMEs, measures to tackle rising costs of living and to enhance purchasing power and support for the energy sector.

114. Interdependence and international solidarity were no longer optional. With globalization, there was no other choice but to reinforce international cooperation.

It was the responsibility of Member States to give UNIDO the necessary resources. In that context, human capital would be crucial.

115. **Mr. Voronkov** (Russian Federation) said the fact that the fifteenth session of the General Conference was being held outside Vienna emphasized the significance and demands of industrial development and symbolized the global role that UNIDO played in the technical and expert cooperation that States needed.

116. The Lima Declaration was important for defining the future of the Organization and its main areas of development and underlined Member States' firm political support for UNIDO and the relevance of the Organization's mandate. It highlighted the significance of the work that the Organization had already been doing for several decades.

117. At the heart of the Lima Declaration was the postulate that inclusive and sustainable industrial development was an important factor for economic growth, job creation and improvement of well-being and quality of life. That was where the expertise of UNIDO lay. His country was confident that the role of UNIDO in that process would be appropriately recognized in the decisions taken by the United Nations General Assembly on the post-2015 development agenda.

118. UNIDO helped develop the industrial policies of its Member States and provided a forum for introducing innovative ideas for industrial development. The Organization played an important role in the implementation of industrial and technological cooperation locally, nationally and regionally, and that constituted the added value of UNIDO, especially in the current uncertain times for global economic and financial systems.

119. UNIDO was not without its problems. The withdrawal of several States from the Organization in recent years was a trend that needed to be reversed. UNIDO needed to be prevented from drifting into the periphery of the United Nations system. The Russian Federation welcomed the efforts of the UNIDO management and of the new Director General to increase the effectiveness of the Organization's work, stabilize its financial situation and foster a sense of involvement of Member States both in the work of the Organization and in the work of the Secretariat.

120. Cooperation between UNIDO and the Russian Federation had reached new heights over recent years and they shared a genuine partnership. What was important was not only the significant growth in the proportion of the regular budget provided by the Russian Federation but also the fact that the Russian Federation was one of the largest donors to the Industrial Development Fund. Using funds from the annual voluntary contribution, UNIDO successfully implemented projects in such important fields as technology transfer, attracting investment, training specialists, creating a base of experts in statistics, developing agro-industry, recycling industrial waste and developing environmentally-friendly production. His country was confident that the Organization's leadership would outline future areas for attention, taking particular consideration of the needs of the Commonwealth of Independent States region.

121. With respect to UNIDO development opportunities in technological cooperation, one of the most important fields of work of the Organization, the Russian Federation wished to reiterate its willingness to take all necessary steps to enhance the organizational, financial, expert and human resources capacity of UNIDO.

The meeting rose at 1.20 p.m.